

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4776

To prohibit the President and the spouse of the President from accepting certain gifts for personal use.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 20, 2002

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## A BILL

To prohibit the President and the spouse of the President from accepting certain gifts for personal use.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. GIFT DEFINED.**

4       In this Act, the term “gift” means any gratuity,  
5       favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan,  
6       forebearance, or other item having monetary value.

7       **SEC. 2. ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS FOR PERSONAL USE.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—The President or the spouse of  
9       the President may not knowingly accept a gift for personal  
10      use except as provided in this Act.

1 (b) GIFTS OF MINIMUM VALUE.—The President or  
2 the spouse of the President may accept a gift which the  
3 President reasonably and in good faith believes to have  
4 a value of less than \$50.

5 (c) CUMULATIVE VALUE FROM A SINGLE SOURCE.—  
6 The President or the spouse of the President may not ac-  
7 cept gifts from a single source having a cumulative value  
8 during a calendar year of more than \$100, except that  
9 no gift with a value of less than \$10 shall count toward  
10 this annual limit.

11 (d) DISPOSITION OF GIFTS EXCEEDING THE  
12 LIMIT.—

13 (1) ACCEPTANCE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED  
14 STATES.—If the President or the spouse of the  
15 President accepts a gift, the value of which exceeds  
16 the limit established in subsection (b) or (c), such  
17 gift is accepted on behalf of the United States and  
18 is deemed property of the United States.

19 (2) DISPOSAL OF GIFTS.—Any gift accepted by  
20 the President or the spouse of the President on be-  
21 half of the United States shall be delivered to the  
22 General Services Administration for disposal.

23 (e) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE PRESI-  
24 DENT.—A gift to an immediate family member of the  
25 President, other than the spouse of the President, or a

1 gift to any other individual based upon that individual's  
2 relationship with the President, shall be considered a gift  
3 to the President, if the gift is given with the knowledge  
4 and acquiescence of the President or the spouse of the  
5 President.

6 **SEC. 3. EXCEPTIONS.**

7 The restrictions in section 3 shall not apply to the  
8 following:

9 (1) A contribution, as defined in the Federal  
10 Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et  
11 seq.) that is lawfully made under that Act.

12 (2) A gift from a relative described in section  
13 109(16) of title I of the Ethics in Government Act  
14 of 1989 (5 U.S.C. App. 109(16)).

15 (3) A contribution or payment to a legal ex-  
16 pense fund established for the benefit of the Presi-  
17 dent or member of his immediate family, that is oth-  
18 erwise lawfully made.

19 (4) Informational materials that are sent to the  
20 President, or to the White House, in the form of  
21 books, articles, periodicals, other written materials,  
22 audiotapes, videotapes, or other forms of commu-  
23 nication.

1           (5) Honorary degrees and other bona fide, non-  
2           monetary awards presented in recognition of public  
3           service.

4           (6) Bequests, inheritances, and other transfers  
5           at death.

6           (7) Any item, the receipt of which is authorized  
7           by the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (5 U.S.C.  
8           7342).

9           (8) Anything paid for by the Federal govern-  
10          ment, or by a State or local government.

11          (9) A gift of personal hospitality, as defined by  
12          section 109(14) of the Ethics in Government Act (5  
13          U.S.C. App. 109(14)), of an individual other than a  
14          registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

15          (10) Free attendance at a widely attended  
16          event, such as a convention, conference, symposium,  
17          forum, panel, dinner, viewing, reception, concert,  
18          sporting event, or other similar event, provided at-  
19          tendance at the event is appropriate to the perform-  
20          ance of the official duties of the President.

21          (11) A plaque, trophy, or other item that is  
22          substantially commemorative in nature and which is  
23          intended solely for presentation.

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